

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the First Plymouth Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2003.

Residents of First Plymouth Representative District

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2003, there were 115,896 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; 0.8% (928) of these admissions reside in the First Plymouth Representative District.¹

Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services. In FY 2003, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the First Plymouth Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 77% were male and 23% were female.
- 58% were between the ages of 30-49.
- 81% were white non-Latino, 10% were black non-Latino, 6% were Latino, and 3% were other racial categories.
- 58% were never married, 17% were married, and 25% reported not to be married now.
- 25% had less than high school education, 50% completed high school, and 25% had more than high school education.
- 28% were employed.
- 10% were homeless.
- 29% had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the First Plymouth Representative District.

Table 1					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2003					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	59%	21%	9%	5%	1%
State	43%	38%	6%	4%	4%

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

¹ To protect client confidentiality, statistics representing clients under 17 years of age have been omitted from this fact sheet.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug use users (or IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2 Annual Admissions by Substance Used: FY 1995 – FY 2003							
First Plymouth Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	735	621	289	223	126	143	93
FY '96	822	652	309	239	144	171	130
FY '97	932	736	365	263	150	189	131
FY '98	1,015	793	328	260	141	209	142
FY '99	1,115	882	377	304	164	209	150
FY '00	1,056	788	316	261	135	232	163
FY '01	1,052	822	355	240	119	229	148
FY '02	1,036	756	320	226	104	251	181
FY '03	928	668	263	233	102	225	155

Heroin and Injection Drug Use

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the First Plymouth Representative District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV.

